MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 JULY 1983

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian forces advanced 15 km into the Ravanduz area of northern Iraq over the weekend, capturing the Iraqi military center at Hajj 'Umran and seizing a number of strategic mountain heights, according to military communiques and announcements broadcast by Tehran radio. The Iranians said they killed or wounded over 3,800 Iraqis and downed 2 planes and 3 helicopters during their new offensive, which is commanded by the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada headquarters in northwest Iran. A "massive" Iraqi counterattack on 23 July was soundly defeated and Iranian troops began closing in on the Iraqi garrison at Choman Mustafa the following day, according to IRNA reports. Iraqi military communiques broadcast by Baghdad and Voice of the Masses radios disputed the Iranian claims, asserting that Iraqi forces defeated the Iranian offensive in the Hajj 'Umran area and killed over 1,400 Iranians. The Iraqi Air Force carried out numerous raids on Iranian positions in the nortnern sector and shot down two Iranian aircraft on 22-23 July without loss, the Iraqi communiques stated. In another development, President Saddam Husayn inspected Iraqi troops in the northern sector, INA reported.

Tehran radio's Arabic service broadcast several appeals to Iraqi kurds to take up arms against the Saddam Husayn regime and Tehran radio cited a spokesman for the Supreme Islamic Revolution Council of Iraq as saying that Iraqi mujahidin are assisting the Iranian offensive. Earlier, in a statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses, an Iraqi military spokesman admitted that the attacking Iranian forces are cooperating with "the brokers of treason who sold themselves to the foreigner a long time ago," adding that the Iraqis are fighting both enemy units and "agent saboteurs."

In a separate development, Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said Iran interprets Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz' recent remarks about attacks on Iranian oil installations as a direct threat to the security of the entire Gulf area aimed at blackmailing the Gulf states, Tehran radio reported. Iraq knows that if Iranian oil exports are disrupted, no country in the region will be able to export oil, Velayati maintained.

PLO Affairs

Renewed Clashes in Lebanon — Fatah loyalists and dissidents resumed fighting in the Shtawrah area of the Al-Biqa' valley on 23 July and clashes continued on 24 and 25 July, according to Beirut radio. The dissidents reportedly took control of several loyalist positions. Voice of Lebanon radio said the fighting resulted in around 50 casualties. A PLO military spokesman cited by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio blamed the "black gangs" of the "counterrevolution" for deliberately attacking Fatah positions in order to undermine current Arab and Palestinian efforts to solve the PLO's problems peacefully. Noting that the eruption of the clashes coincided with efforts by the Arab League reconciliation committee to mediate the PLO-Syrian dispute, the radio accused Syria of organizing the renewed violence in order to send a "message" to Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi and other mediators. Many of the groups fighting on behalf of the dissidents are Palestinian "in name only" and their sole concern is to realize the aims of the Syrian and Libyan regimes, a commentary by the radio claimed.

Political Developments, 'Arafat Interviews — The Fatah dissidents have rejected the PLO Executive Committee's call for an emergency PNC meeting to discuss the current crisis, Radio Monte Carlo reported on 24 July. The committee held several meetings in Tunis over the weekend and its chairman, Yasir 'Arafat, met separately with the Saudi, Algerian, and French foreign ministers, according to Baghdad Voice of PLO, Tunis radio, and SPA. 'Arafat also received another message from the Soviet leadership, INA noted.

Meanwhile, in an interview with the London magazine *Al-Majallah*, 'Arafat reiterated his appeal to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to intervene to halt the deterioration in Syrian-PLO relations, adding that he still pins "great hopes" on the Syrian leader. However, the Syrian-backed "conspiracy" against the PLO has achieved its aim of reducing the PLO's international legitimacy and prestige, he added. 'Arafat likewise criticized the Syrians in an interview with the Baghdad paper *'Alif Ba'* broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio. 'Arafat said he had been the target of two Syrian assassination attempts and accused Syrian intelligence of selling the contents of the seized PLO offices in Damascus as "war spoils." The PLO leader also told the London magazine *Ad-Dustur* that he supports reforms within Fatah provided they are not used as a "Trojan horse" to liquidate the PLO, KUNA reported.

Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf likewise referred to the PLO-Syrian dispute in an interview with Budapest television. He called for direct talks between the PLO and Syria, adding that both sides should admit they have made mistakes. Khalaf denied having aspirations to succeed 'Arafat as PLO chairman, which is "not the kind of post for which anyone would envy 'Arafat."

Inter-Arab Affairs

Khaddam Tour — Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam conveyed messages from Syrian President al-Asad to the rulers of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia over the weekend, according to KUNA and SPA. SPA said Khaddam discussed bilateral relations and the current Arab situation with King Fahd and KUNA quoted Khaddam as saying his message for the Kuwaiti amir concerned the situation in Lebanon.

Arab Summit — Before leaving for Damascus on 23 July, Arab League Secretary General Klibi announced in a press statement reported by Radio Monte Carlo that the next Arab summit conference will be held in Riyadh in November. The venue and date of the summit were decided by the Arab reconciliation committee which is currently concentrating on mediating between Syria and the PLO, Klibi noted.

Lebanon

Security, Military Situation — Artillery exchanges between Druze and Christian militia near Beirut continued intermittently over the weekend after around 18 people were killed and 40 others were wounded in the shelling on 22 July, according to Beirut radio reports. Defending the shelling of Beirut airport on 22 July, Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt said his men were "forced" to shell Lebanese Army batteries in retaliation for the Army's shelling of Druze villages, AFP reported. Meanwhile, Israeli and Syrian forces in the Al-Biqa' valley engaged in a limited clash late on 22 July, Voice of Lebanon radio announced. Syrian and Israeli forces also exchanged artillery fire near the Beirut-Damascus highway on 24 July, according to the radio.

In southern Lebanon, a car bomb destroyed the mobile van used by the Christian Broadcasting Network's Middle East television, Voice of Hope radio reported on 23 July. The Lebanese National Resistance was responsible for the operation, according to the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio. Middle East television subsequently continued to broadcast in spite of the attack.

National Salvation Front — PSP leader Walid Junblatt announced the formation of a Lebanese "National Salvation Front" led by himself, former President Sulayman Franjiyah, and former Prime Minister Rashid Karami, Radio Monte Carlo reported on 23 July. Damascus radio broadcast the new front's charter, which denounced the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and accused the Lebanese Government of aiming to cede certain parts of Lebanon in order to establish a racist "little Lebanon." Action must be taken to confront the Phalangist Party's hegemony and strengthen the steadfastness of the nationalist regions, the charter added. The announcement of the new front — in Ba'labakk and Tripoli — was attended by a variety of Lebanese leftist and pro-Syrian personalities, including leaders of the Ba'th Party, Syrian Social National Party, and the Communist Party, according to Radio Monte Carlo and Damascus radio. Meanwhile, Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri announced in Beirut that he is "firmly allied" with Junblatt and the Lebanese Nationalist Forces against the planned partition of Lebanon, SANA reported. On the other hand, Foreign Minister Elie Salim deplored the formation of the National Salvation Front as a "dangerous" development, Voice of Lebanon radio noted.

Comment on U.S. Talks — The talks with President Reagan and other U.S. officials have given the Lebanese delegation a clear picture "full of positive aspects," Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan announced at a Washington news conference broadcast by Beirut radio on 23 July. The U.S. side showed deep understanding for Lebanon's opposition to a partial Israeli withdrawal, he added. Meanwhile, Damascus radio responded to President al-Jumayyil's statements in Washington criticizing Syria by accusing the Lebanese leaders of deliberately provoking and incriminating Syria. The threats against Damascus will not provoke or frighten Syria, the radio said.

Israel

Shamir, Arens U.S. Visit — Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Defense Minister Moshe Arens will visit the United States 25 July in response to an invitation from President Reagan, Jerusalem radio reported. Government sources cited by the radio expressed their concern that the United States will ask Israel to delay the IDF redeployment along the Al-'Awwali River. Shamir, however, told a Jerusalem television correspondent that Israel will adhere to its redeployment decision.

In another development, Minister Without Portfolio Ari'el Sharon suggested that if Israel is expected to follow U.S. policy in Lebanon, it should demand that UN observers or multinational forces be stationed between Syrian and Israeli lines, Jerusalem Radio stated.

West Bank — Hebron was declared a closed military area 22 July after plans for demonstrations against new settlements were reported, according to Jerusalem radio. All nonresidents were prohibited from entering Hebron. At a 24 July Cabinet meeting, Arens promised that no political demonstrations will be allowed in "Judaea and Samaria," another report added. Later, demonstrators in Hebron were told to leave, the radio noted. Meanwhile, in a *Los Angeles Times* interview, Arens advocated the extension of Israeli sovereignty over Judaea and Samaria with Israeli citizenship to be offered to all inhabitants, Jerusalem Radio reported.

Reaction to Habib Resignation

Israel "regrets" the resignation of presidential envoy Philip Habib but "welcomes" his successor Robert McFarlane, Jerusalem radio said quoting Prime Minister Menahem Begin's spokesman. The Syrian paper *Tishrin* linked Habib's resignation to Syria's refusal to receive him and to the "failure" of the Lebanon agreement, according to Damascus Radio. On the other hand, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio claimed the decision is part of a Syrian maneuver to divert attention from Syrian "intervention in internal PLO affairs." When the new envoy arrives in Damascus, the radio predicted, it will be to discuss the partition of Lebanon and liquidation of the PLO.

Gulf States

Qatar is continuing to search for mines in the Gulf after discovery of a Soviet-made mine off its northeast coast, Manama *Gulf Daily News* reported. This is the first official confirmation of mines since the U.S. Defense Mapping Agency issued a warning earlier in the month about the probability of mines floating in the Gulf, according to the paper.

Iran

Pilgrimage Dispute With Saudis — Saudi Arabia's "sabotage and obstructionism" toward the almost 100,000 Iranians seeking to make the pilgrimage to Mecca should be interpreted as a

measure favoring Zionism and the "front of global infidels," Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri announced in a message to clergy of the Muslim world broadcast by Tehran radio. Islamic Guidance Minister Mohammad Khatami likewise told Muslim information ministers in an open letter carried by IRNA that Mecca and Medina belong to all Muslims and that Saudi Arabia's control over the Hijaz does not permit it to claim sole title to the Ka'bah. Saudi Arabia's "excuses" to prevent the impending journey of about 100,000 Iranian pilgrims are part of a "catastrophic" scheme that will be applied not only to Iranian Muslims but will also be used as a lever to apply pressure on all Muslim governments and peoples seeking independence, Khatami warned.

Meanwhile, the Saudi paper *Al-Madinah* accused Iran of seeking to create sectarian rifts within Islam by sending agents "everywhere" to foment discord, Riyadh radio reported.

Voice and Vision — After resigning as managing director of the Voice and Vision, Iran's broadcasting network, Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani met with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, who announced that Hashemi-Rafsanjani should remain managing director pending a "legal decision" on the situation, according to Tehran radio reports.

Afghanistan

Rebels seriously wounded the Baghlan governor and deputy governor as they were inspecting security arrangements in Baghlan, Karachi radio stated.

Egypt

Members of an extremist religious organization called the Islamic Liberation Party, whose goal is to forcibly overthrown the regime and change the state's basic structure, are being investigated by the authorities, MENA reported citing *Al-Ahram*. Security forces are searching for other members of the organization.

Libya

Supplies to Chad — Libyan aircraft are massed on the border with Chad, according to Western diplomatic sources cited by AFP. The sources stated that transport aircraft have resumed deliveries of supplies to Goukouni Oueddei forces in Faya-Largeau as well as to towns further north. Truck convoys are also being sent.

Al-Qadhdhafi, Jallud on Lebanon War — Before ending an official visit to Nouakchott, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi appealed to the Arab nation to mobilize immediately to confront the "Zionist death train," Tripoli radio reported. The Libyan leader urged support for the Lebanese resistance and also for the Fatah dissidents "because it will lead to the emergence of a fighting and united Palestinian movement."

Meanwhile, in a speech delivered in Tripoli, Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud denied Libyan involvement with the new revolutionary movement in Fatah, according to JANA. Jallud also decried Zaire's intervention in Chad, stating that it was a "tool" of French-U.S. intervention.

Western Sahara

Polisario cannot accept a referendum held in the presence of the Moroccan administration and Army, a Polisario official announced in a statement reported by TANJUG on 21 July. Asserting that such a referendum would be a "fake," the official said the two warring sides should directly negotiate an approved basis for the referendum.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Karachi Reports on Recent Mujahidin Activities

Baghlan Province Fighting

K221554 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, mujahidin wiped out a military post in the industrial area of Baghlan. Many Soviet-Karmal troops were killed in the attack and many soldiers forcibly drafted surrendered with their arms and ammunition.

Another report says that fighting took place at the function organized by the Afghan authorities on the occasion of 'Id al-Fitr, in which nine Parcham members were killed.

Baghlan Officials Wounded

BK240942 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Text] In Afghanistan, the governor and the deputy governor of the Baghlan Province have been seriously wounded in a mujahidin attack, according to reports. The mujahidin attacked them when they were inspecting security arrangements in the city. The attack severely damaged four tanks and destroyed two military trucks and jeeps.

According to another report, the mujahidin severely damaged five tanks and a military truck in various attacks in Qandahar and Nimruz Provinces toward the middle of the last month. They also attacked a mobile military unit of the Soviet-Karmal forces in the suburbs of (Malajat), badly damaging four tanks and a truck and killing their crewmen. The mujahidin destroyed a tank with mines in the (Shabzwadi) area of Nimruz Province.

'Bloody Clashes' Cited

BK251041 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan speak of bloody clashes between the freedom fighters and the Soviet-Karmal forces near Kabul during last week in which a number of Soviet-Karmal troops were killed. Reports further say that the mujahidin also damaged several tanks and armored vehicles.

Meanwhile, the Soviet-Karmal troops are reported to have deserted Khugiani subdivision of Nangarhar Province before 'Id al-Fitr under the mounting pressure of mujahidin. The forces have now been shifted to the Qal'a subdivision where they are engaged in fortifications against mujahidin.

In Farah Province, the mujahidin, who had been trapped by the Soviet-Karmal forces in Anaradara subdivision, have broken the encirclement after a bold operation.

Crimes, Death of 'CIA Bandit' Recounted

LD250702 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Kabul, July 24, BAKHTAR — *Haqiqate-Enqilabe-Sawr*, the organ of the PDPA CC, carried an account of the bestial crimes and disgraceful end of a counter-revolutionary bandit, who masqueraded as a religious leader.

Ghafour, alias Maulawi Qara, had renounced all human compunctions and joined the CIA sponsored killer bands in the (Sherintagab) district of Faryab Province three years ago, under the garb of a religious leader fighting for the "cause of Islam". In his attempts to please his foreign masters, he excelled in the most unconscionable and ruthless crimes against the local population. He was never satisfied simply with the burning and destruction of mosques and schools, but also burned the people and their animals alive and looted their properties.

However, his pseudo-Islamic and religious postures and pretensions could not save him from the wrath of the people for long. He was recognised by the people as none other than one of the most wretched criminals engaged by the CIA to oppress the people of Afghanistan and to destroy their peaceful life.

According to *Haqiqate-Enqilabe-Sawr*, the clergy and the awakened people of the area joined hands, captured the bandit ringleader and shot him dead recently. Because of his traitorous and most ourageous crimes against the country and the Muslim people of Afghanistan, the noble ulema refused to recognise him as a Muslim and to perform any funeral rites for him. And that was the disgraceful end of a so-called counter-revolutionary bandit scum.

Ershad Says Election Schedule Will Be Maintained

BK250958 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Excerpt] The Chief Martial Law Adminstrator [CMLA] Lieutenant General H.M. Ershad has declared that the election schedule announced by the government will be maintained.

Addressing a cross section of people of Barisal and Patuakhali districts at Barisal medical college auditorium, he said we are determined to honor the commitment. Gen Ershad said he believes in peaceful transfer of power and does not want to see the restoration of any bloodshed. That is why so much emphasis is being laid on a sound system and institutions.

The CMLA said if we are to establish real democracy — people's democracy — we must start from the grassroot level. The holding of elections to the local bodies before the general elections are the most sensible and systematic approach toward the desired goal of establishing democracy on a solid footing. The present government has always proved its good intentions and will do so in future, he asserted.

Referring to the position with regard to the Constitution, Gen Ershad said it stands suspended, not scrapped. The coming general elections will be held under this Constitution after the suspension is withdrawn. He said what is needed now is to maintain a peaceful atmosphere and keep up the flow and tempo of development activities. People-oriented programs initiated by the present government will have to be implemented in the larger interest of the country.

The CMLA warned that any quarter attempting to disturb the peace and the process of restoration of real democracy will be held responsible for the consequences. He also dwelt at length on the reformative and development efforts being undertaken by the government and said that these are needed to reshape the economic and social fabric of the country. He referred to the 18-point program of the government and said it is aiemd at achieving economic emancipation of the people as a whole.

Gen Ershad said it is an uphill task to implement a program for economic emancipation. It is as [word indistinct] as creating an ocean, but we know that little drops of water make the mighty ocean. We are also embarking on development programs one by one to reach our cherished goal. Inshallah [God willing], we will succeed if we work hard unitedly and with honesty.

Gen Ersahd said an emergency program has been undertaken by the government to set up a family welfare center in each union in the course of next 2 years. On the drug policy, he said that it is undoubtedly a bold step on the part of the government aimed at (?retarding) the unnecessary cost of medicine and making available drugs at a cheaper rate. Turning to the land reform, the CMLA said report of the land reform committee is under consideration of the government which will start taking [words indistinct] on the recommedation soon. The government wants the farmers to have their due shares and security of their livelihood.

Referring to the recently signed temporary agreement between Bangladesh and India on the sharing of Tista wanters, he said it is a welcome (?stage) keeping in view the limitations and situation obtaining in both the countries. He hoped that given good will and understanding, it will be possible to reach a solution to the Farakka problem.

On the existing educational system, Gen Ershad said it must be changed to suit the national requirement. We will have to introduce an educational system which will not create frustration among the future generation and ensure a secure career for them.

AFP: Top Level Changes in Government Reported

BK231609 Hong Kong AFP in English 1530 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] New Delhi, July 23 (AFP) — India today announced some top level changes in Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's administration, including moves in the external and internal intelligence setup.

The government reorganised the intelligence machinery by creating separate external and internal divisions, each placed under the charge of a senior officer of secretary rank, the top most civilian in the department or ministry concerned.

Under the new setup, S.M. Warty, additional director of the Research and Analaysis Wing (RAW), was promoted and appointed chairman of the newly-created Joint Intelligence Committee (External).

P.P. Nayyar, special secretary in the Home Ministry, is to head the Joint Intelligence Committee (Internal).

The government also shifted as many as seven other secretaries from their present position in various ministries and promoted three others to the ranks of secretaries in a bid to improve working of various departments.

Gandhi Dedicates Kalpakkam Atomic Powerplant

BK231130 Delhi Domestic Service English 0830 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, today dedicated to the nation the third atomic powerplant at Kalpakkam near Madras. In a brief speech after turning the key to mark the flow of nuclear power into the southern grid, Mrs Gandhi said India has no intention to embark on a nuclear weapons program. On the other hand, it wants to provide an honorable life to the masses. She said India desires to make the desert bloom and not to make the world a desert.

Referring to nonproliferation treaties, Mrs Gandhi said India did not sign the accord because the nuclear weapon countries have not stopped proliferation. Instead, they choose to impose restrictions on our freedom to conduct even research for peaceful purposes. While India will avail of the cooperation from industrialized nations in nuclear research, it will not accept any domination or limitation of our freedom of judgment, she said.

Italy, FRG To Supply Parts for Tarapur Plant

BK231118 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] Italy and the Federal Republic of Germany have offered to supply spare parts for the Tarapur atomic powerplant. The offer comes as a followup of the United States assurance that these parts would be supplied through third countries. The chairman of the Department of Atomic Energy, Dr H.N. Sethna, said in Madras that a high-level team of the Department of Atomic Energy will visit the two countries next month to finalize the details. He said efforts are on to manufacture some of these spare parts in the country. The fuel position in the country is comfortable with enough quantity being produced indigenously.

Gandhi Comments on Relations With Sri Lanka

BK231619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Excerpts] Addressing a press conference in Madras, the prime minister said India wants to maintain and continue friendly relations with Sri Lanka and she expressed the hope that Sri Lanka will reciprocate. She affirmed that India does not want to interfere in the itnernatl affairs of another country, but reports in the press about what is happening in Sri Lanka is disturbing and we cannot help feeling distressed. She said that when there are people of common origin in two independent countries, it is specially improtant not to do or say anything which can be misconstrued as interference. India is against secessionist movements in sovereign states nor does she condone terrorism. In societies like ours, Mrs Gandhi said, civil liberties, particularly the rights of the minorities and respect for and protection of those rights, assume special importance. In India, the prime minister pointed out that it has been a constant effort to maintain harmony through cooperation among different communities. Volence only breeds violence and has disrupted the national unity and integrity, she said. We are sure that leaders of different communities in Sri Lanka also realize this, Mrs Gandhi added.

Venkataraman Urges 'Full Defense Preparedness'

BK250928 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] The defense minister says the country has to maintain its full defense preparedness in view of the massive induction of sophisticated arms in our neighborhood. He was addressing the troops somewhere in the western sector today. Mr Venkataraman said we will continue with our efforts for reduction of tension and resolution of all problems without the use of force, while at the same time we cannot ignore the developments around us.

He said there is no room for complacency. The government is determined to the pledge to keep the nation and its Armed Forces ready for any eventuality. He reminded the troops that while equipment and technology are important in improving the fighting capability, basically the men behind the weapon matter. Mr Venkataraman assured the jawans [soldiers] that their welfare is given high priority. He said the Armed Forces are the best example for national integration; they are the shining example of cooperation and harmony.

AFP: Army Obtains New Version of Soviet T-72 Tank

BK250725 Hong Kong AFP in English 0653 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] New Delhi, July 25 (AFP) — The Indian Army has obtained a new version of the Soviet T-72 tank fitted with a sophisticated laser range finder and a 125-mm gun described as "the most powerful gun in the world" the UNITED NEWS OF INDIA (UNI) agency reported here today. The news agency, UNI, reported that the tank could operate with devastating effect

in nuclear-, chemical-, and biological-warfare conditions. The range finder would give the tank's four different projectiles the maxinum blast effect and "a first-round hit capability," the agency said, quoting authoritative sources. The T-72 had armour which no known ammunition could penetrate, the agency reported. UNI did not give the number of tanks acquired or the cost involved.

Defence Ministry sources appeared sceptical about the report. Asked to confirm or deny it, a top official told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that a statement would be issued later. The agency said that field trials currently underway showed that the new tank had the "fire-power and manoeuvrability" to meet the challenges well beyond the turn of the century. The army was expected to urge the Defence Ministry to enter into a contract with the Soviet Union for local production of the tank.

The Soviet Union, India's largest arms supplier, has already provided earlier versions of the T-72 which is in service with some regiments of the Indian armoured corps. UNI reported that the new tank carried a total of 40 rounds: six high explosive anti-tank projectiles, 12 armour piercing fin stabilising discarding sabbot (APFSDS) and 22 high explosives. It would have a three-man crew — commander, gunner and driver — instead of the usual four and had a maximum speed of 80 kph and a range of 500 km. The agency cited the sources as saying the new tank would fire "a mix of chemical energy projectiles of high lethality, have a devastating rapid rate of fire when needed, and be extremely accurate to perhaps 3,500 m even when on the move."

Gandhi Scores Opposition Stance on Punjab Issue

BK241625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Excerpt] The prime minister today criticized the opposition for making the Punjab tangle more complicated instead of dealing with it with sympathy. Addressing a meeting of the Congress-I Party in Parliament in New Delhi on the eve of the monsoon session, Mrs Gandhi said the problems of Punjab are not the problems of the Congress Party alone; they are for the entire country. She said in view ofthe location of the state the Punjab problem has greater ramification. Even in such a situation, far from treating it with sympathy the opposition has done everything to make it more acute. Mrs Gandhi said she does not know what will be said and what encouragement will be given to the agitators, and again the situation, far from calming down, might become more tense. The prime minister described the situation as something like the Assam situation. She said there is little calm for various reasons. Mrs Gandhi expressed the hope that a calm atmosphere will be there under which the problems can be solved.

Referring to the situation in Jammu and Kashmir after the recent elections, Mrs Gandhi said all are probably aware of what it happening there. It is not a happy picture. In our setup, there are certain things with which we have to live, but our main concern is unity and integrity of the country. Referring to the recent elections in the state, Mrs Gandhi said that members who are from Jammu, Ladakh, and Kashmir will give more facts on the situation.

Speaking on opposition governments in certain states, the prime minister said we have never tried to topple them. Referring to some criticism about her party's activities in Andhra Pradesh, Mrs Gandhi said we have never encouraged strikes. But some of our people might be having sympathy with the employees.

Seven Arrested in Punjab Police 'Crackdown'

BK220740 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] The Punjab police in a statewide crackdown has arrested seven persons involved in cases of violence. The inspector general of police, law, and order, Mr P.S. Bhinder, told our Chandigarh correspondent this morning that the arrested persons are .lleged to be involved in cases of violence such as murder, bank robbery and tampering of railway track.

Results of Tamil Nadu Election Announced

BK221450 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] In the biennial election to the Rajya Sabha from Tamil Nadu assembly, the All-India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam [AIADMK] has won four seats and the Congress-I and the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam [DMK] one each. There were seven candidates for the six seats. The AIADMK members are Mr (V. Arunachalam), Mr Kadershah, Mr (G. Varadraju), and Mr (Yerasamrasevam).

The Congress-I general secretary, Mr G.K. Moopanar, and Mr Murasoli Maran of DMK have been reelected. The sitting member, Mr. P. Ramamurti of Communist Party of India-Marxist, has lost. The polling for these seats was held today.

Khalistan's Chauhan Charged in Secessionist Case

BK231627 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] The Central Bureau of Investigation has registered a case under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act 1967 against the self-styled president of the so-called Khalistan, Dr Jagjit Singh Chauhan. The first information report accuses Dr Chauhan of carrying on unlawful activities in various countries like Britain, the United States, and West Germany by preaching secession of a part of India.

Zia Returns From Tokyo, Holds Press Conference

BK231718 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said his visit to Japan has contributed toward achieving the twin objectives of increasing economic cooperation and improving political understanding between Pakistan and Japan. Addressing a news conference at the airport on his return to Islamabad this afternoon the president referred to the joint ministerial commission that has been constituted to explore areas of cooperation. As a result of his talks with Japanese Prime Minsiter Nakasone, Japan will increase its economic assistance to Pakistan. The president said they also discussed the issue of removing the trade imbalance and for this purpose, the two countries will exchange delegations to assess what other goods can be exported to Japan from Pakistan.

The president said Japan will soon send its survey team to Pakistan which will evaluate priorities envisaged in Pakistan's sixth 5-year plan. He said during his talks he felt that Japanese investors are eager to invest in Pakistan and I, on my part, have provided a guarantee to fully protect their investments. The president said that Japan has expressed great interest in providing assistance to Pakistan in the fields of energy, social welfare, education, and technology. It has pledged to give economic assistance for the Jamshoro powerplant in 1983-84. In addition, Japan has also offered to supply as special assistance a 100 megawatt barge-mounted powerplant. Its installation will help ease shortages of electricity especially in Karachi (?central) areas. Negotiations are going on for the purchase of this powerplant. The 500 megawatt solar powerplant in Suwat has already begun trial operations. This plan was also supplied by a Japanese firm, he added.

About technology transfer, the president said he held in-depth talks with Japanese leaders in this regard and they have promised to help Pakistan in the development of technology and the training of technical manpower. He said Japan has also pledged assistance to Pakistan for increasing productivity in the agricultural sector.

The president said there was complete identity of views between the two countries on various international issues. Japan supported Pakistan's stand on Afghanistan and will increase the volume of its humanitarian assistance for Afghan refugees. President Mohammad Ziaul Haq said his visit has filled the gap which existed between the two countries for lack of contacts at the highest level over 23 years. He said these contacts will be maintained and for this purpose the foreign minister has formulated a program. He said he felt extreme feelings of love and good will for the people of Pakistan in Japan, which is borne by the fact that Japanese Emperor Hirohito, who was to leave Tokyo for a health resort, cancelled his departure to welcome me. The president said his visit has enhanced Pakistan's prestige in Japan and the Japanese mass media gave wide coverage to his visit and talks there.

Sends Good Will Messages

BK240155 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] While overflying the territories of China, Burma, Bangladesh, and India on his way back home today from Japan, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq sent messages of good will and best wishes to the leaders of these countries, expressing the hope of further strengthening their bilateral relations.

In his message to President Li Xiannian of China, the president expressed his confidence that the ties of friendship and cooperation which bound Pakistan and China will further grow and, in the process, promote peace and stability in our region. He said he looks forward to welcoming the Chinese president in Pakistan as a special guest.

In his message to the Indian prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, the president reaffirmed his resolve to continue the efforts for consolidation of mutual trust and confidence, which will not only ensure harmonious relations between the two countries but also further the cause of peace and stability in the region.

In a separate message to the Indian president, Mr Zail Singh, the president expressed his confidence that the friendly ties existing between the two countries would continue to be strengthened.

In his message to the Bangladesh president [as heard] Hossain Mohammad Ershad, the president prayed for the progress and prosperity of fraternal people of Bangladesh and for the further expansion and deepening of relations between the two brotherly countries.

In his message to President U San Yu of Burma, the president said their ties of friendship and cooperation are based on principles of peaceful coexistence and will continue to be strengthened.

While leaving Hong Kong, the president also sent a message to its governor, in which he conveyed his best wishes for the progress and prosperity to the people of Hong Kong.

Report Presented on Future Form of Government

BK231108 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] The report of the special committee of the Federal Council on the form and system of government in Pakistan from the Islamic point of view was presented before the house today when the Majlis-e-Shoora [Federal Advisory Council] began its seventh session in Islamabad this morning. The report has been prepared by a 30-member special committee of the house headed by Mr Fida Mohammad Khan.

According to the report, after duly considering the constitutional history of Pakistan, the committee has come to the conclusion

that a parliamentary form of government which was in accordance with Islam would be more appropriate for the country. The committee decided that the 1973 Constitution should form the basis of its deliberations and the political framework provided therein should be adopted with the minimum essential changes in its provisions. It [was] considered necessary to examine an important aspect of this constitution, mainly its Islamic character, since there is a total commitment of the government and the people to bring about the Islamization in the country. The committee has further decided to recommend suitable amendments in its relevant articles so as to bring about a reasonable balance between the powers of the president and the prime minister. It also recommended similar amendments in the relevant articles for striking a balance between the powers of the governors and the chief ministers of the province.

About the political parties, some members of the committee expressed the view that the concept of political parties was foreign to Islam and was the product of Christian democracy. There was no clear-cut injunction in the shari'a [Islamic laws] that political parties or a political system based thereon are un-Islamic. However, Islam being a dynamic religion and believing in democracy and the development of democratic institutions through which it serves the well being of the people, the committee felt that in Islamic state political parties could be allowed to function in order to protect and safeguard the rights of the people and to ensure checks and balances against the excesses of the government in power. The committee recommended that suitable legal measures may be adopted to create a healthy climate under which political parties with a national base get established in the country. Restrictions may also be imposed on the registration of political parties, crossing of the floors, and changing of affiliations by the elected members. The committee recommended that the provision of the Political Party Act 3 of 1962, regarding the registration of political parties, be strictly followed. The political parties should believe in the integrity and indivisibility of the country, support the enforcement of Nizam-e-Islam [Islamic system] in Pakistan and should adhere to the concept of indivisible Pakistani nationhood. No manifesto of political parties should contain the deceptive and unrealistic slogans or promsies.

The committee recommended that it should be made obligatory for the voter to give a personal declaration at the time of his registration as a voter that he is an observer of saum-o-salawat [Islamic practices]. The committee has recommended that the elections be held on the basis of universal adult franchise, i.e., on the one man, one vote basis. The committee has recommended that some reasonable restrictions may be imposed by law on convassing and campaigning for elections to the national and provincial assemblies.

Karachi Previews PRC Foreign Minister's Visit

BK241710 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Text] Chinese Foreign minister Mr Wu Xueqian is arriving in Islamabad tomorrow on a 5-day official visit to Pakistan. He will exchange views with his Pakistani counterpart, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, on international issues, regional matters of mutual interest as well as bilateral relations. He will also call on President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq. His activities will include, among other things, a visit to the Afghan refugee camp in the Northwest Frontier Province. A Pakistan radio representative says China is an ideal neighbor of Pakistan in all areas of bilateral relations, be they political or economic, and, hence, the Chinese foreign minister's visit to Pakistan is anxiously awaited.

A foreign office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad today that the frequent contacts between Pakistani and Chinese leaders bear testimony to the close relations and cooperation that have long existed between the two neighboring countries. The spokesman further said the relations between Pakistan and China are based on mutuality of interest, friendship, and cooperation and are inspired by the principles of peaceful coexistence. The two countries have together upheld law and justice in relations among nations of the world.

The spokesman said China has provided generous assistance to Pakistan in past for several projects, including the establishment of the heavy mechanical complex, heavy forge and foundary, and heavy rebuild factory. These plants have enabled Pakistan to become self-reliant to a great extent. The spokesman added that China has agreed to assist Pakistan in upgrading these industrial complexes. Chinese assistance has enabled Pakistan to build various machines in the country. China is also setting up the fourth powerplant in Guddu.

On Pakistan-China trade, the spokesman said trade relations between the two countries have increased and, at present, the bilateral trade turnover amounts to $500 million. China has encouraged Pakistan's exports to it in the same manner as it has boosted its own exports to Pakistan. China is one of those four countries with which Pakistan has a maximum trade turnover, the spokesman added.

Political Leader on Recognizing DRA Government

GF231518 Islamabad The Muslim in English 4 Jul 83 p 5

[Bureau report]

[Text] Lahore, July 3, — C.R. Aslam, president, Pakistan Socialist Party commenting on the recent interview of S.A. Smirnov, Soviet ambassador to Pakistan, said here today that realism urged Pakistan to recognise the Karmal regime of Afghanistan and to settle the issue of refugees repatriation through direct negotiations with that government.

Talking to reporters here today, he said, the Geneva parleys have been inconclusive as U.S. was opposed to a political solution of the Afghanistan issue. C.R. Aslam alleged that the U.S. Government wants to keep this issue unresolved to make it a basis of propaganda against the rival super-power. He said the Pakistan Government should resolve the issue through direct talks keeping in view the national interests. Direct parleys, he said, would not only stengthen the mutual ties between Pakistan and Afghanistan but would also plug the avenues of [word indistinct] he said, American conspiracies.

SRI LANKA

Extension of State of Emergency Noted

BK221314 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] In Sri Lanka, parliament has extended the state of emergency by another month. The emergency was imposed in May last to check postelection violence. The prime minister, Mr Premadasa, told parliament that there had been continued clashes between the Sinhalese and members of the Tamil minority in the eastern district of Trinomalee.

AFP: Tamil Gunmen Ambush Military Vehicle, Kill 13

BK241528 Hong Kong AFP in English 1522 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Text] Colombo, July 24 (AFP) -- Thirteen soldiers including an officer were killed and two others seriously injured when militant Tamil separatists ambushed two military vehicles near the northern capital of Jaffna last night, the Defence Ministry announced today. The dead soldiers were flown to Colombo and buried today with full military honours in the presence of senior cabinet ministers and Defence Ministry officials, it said in a communique.

The military vehicles had left an army camp and were heading for Jaffna last night to investigate a tip-off when the front vehicle was struck by an explosion detonated from about 50 yards away, it said. Two soldiers died immediately. The rest left the vehicles to counter attack when they were met by a hail of gunfire from three sides. Bombs were also thrown at the vehicles.

The Defence Ministry said that bloodstains were found behind a low wall from which the attack had come, suggesting that some of the terrorists might have been wounded or killed in the crossfire. Some of the attackers were said to have been dressed in army uniforms. The Defence Ministry believes that the detonator used was one stolen from a state-owned cement factory in the north early this month.

'Widespread Violence, Curfew Reported

BK251356 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] In Sri Lanka, curfew has been imposed in Colombo, the Western Province, and Jaffna following widespread violence. It will be in force till tomorrow morning. An official statement issued in Colombo said that rioting broke out last night in several parts of Colombo as news spread of the death of 13 soldiers in Jaffna. Three people are reported to have been killed. The government has said that those who violate the curfew will be shot without any warning.

In Colombo, all offices and schools were closed today. Public transport was suspended. The Sri Lanka radio announced that all flights from Colombo's international airport have been suspended.

New Vice Chancellors of Universities Appointed

BK231115 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] Vice chancellors of universities, directors of university colleges, deans of faculties, and heads of department of universities have ceased to hold office. According to the Emergency University Regulation No 1 of 1983, gazetted under the Public Security Ordinance, the minister has the power to appoint vice chancellors and directors on the recommendations of the University Grants Commission. The minister also has powers to remove them from office at any time. Vice chancellors will have the power to appoint or to remove from office any person as dean. The director of every university college has the power to appoint or remove from office any person as dean. Vice chancellors of the six universities and directors of the two university colleges received their appointments on Thursday and they met the president. They are Professor Stanley Wijesundara, Colombo University; Professor (S.L. Takulwela), Kelaniya University; (Karunasena Kuritabakku) as vice chancellor of the Sri Jayawardhanapura University; Professor (Willy Mendes), Murutawa University; Professor (G. P. Samavikrama), (Rohona) University College; Professor (S. Rajaratnam), as the director of the Batticaloa University; and Professor Vithiyananthan, Jaffna University. The councils of the universities are now vested in the vice chancellors.

TULF Members Decide To Resign From Parliament

BK241250 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Text] At the external session of the general council of the Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF] held in Mannar till late last night, it was decided that all members of parliament representing the TULF should tender their resignations to the secretary general, A. Amirthalingam today.

A TULF spokesman told the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation [SLBC] this morning that it had also been decided to leave it entirely to the central working committee of the party as to how the vacancies created by the resignations should be filled.

The general council meeting, which was chaired by the MP for Nallur and the president of TULF, Mr Sivasithamparam, was attended by all TULF MP's except Mr (Durayratnam) who is indisposed. The spokesman added it was decided that the TULF should not attend the roundtable conference scheduled to take place this week. However, the spokesman said it would be considered depending on the other parties attending the roundtable conference. The spokesman further told the SLBC that Mr Amirthalingam was expected to make an announcement later today at a public meeting in regard to these decisions.

Reportage on Wal Fajr-II Operations Begun 22 July

GF230526 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0456 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Excerpts] Oh Islamic nation, martyr-nurturing and revolutionary nation: The brave children and the self-sacrificers of the army of light and the chanting warriors of the army of Islam last night started Wal Fajr-II operations using the code Oh God, Oh God, Oh God, following the successful operations to chase and crush the armed bandits in the border areas of Piranshahr. The operations were started in order to capture the strategic (?King) Heights and Iraq's Hajj 'Umran Garrison which is one of the important sources for feeding the counterrevolution in the area and also for ridding the Kurdish towns of the Islamic homeland from the fire of the enemy. The operation is under the command of Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters, God bless him and all his scion, the center of joint operations of the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

The brave, zealous Islamic fighters have dealt heavy blows against the body of the weakened and deteriorating forces of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Iraq so far with the start of the Wal Fajr-II operations,being carried out in the Piranshahr border regions and the Piranshahr-Ravanduz axis. The infidel-fighting Islamic zealots, formed from the brave men of the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the self-sacrificing guards and mobilization personnel of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps, the muslim Kurdish peshmerga, and the Muslim Iraqi fighters managed to cross the obstacles and minefields at the start of the operations and have killed or wounded over 2,000 of the forces of the defeated enemy, while also capturing a number of them. The Islamic warriors, infiltrating deeply into enemy positions, have managed to destroy enemy strongholds and capture a number of enemy bases in the operational theater.

Th battle continues with Islam enjoying complete superiority. Parts of Iraqi territory in the theater are now under siege. Our warriors, relying on Lord's blessings, are dealing crushing blows against the helpless and defeated enemy while moving to reach their predetermined objectives.

[Signed] Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters, the center for joint operation of the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps

Headquarters Communique

GF230550 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0514 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Unnumbered communique issued by the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters]

[Text] According to the latest reports up to 0230 today, several units of the forces of Islam having destroyed or captured a number of enemy bases and have reached their preliminary objectives. In the early hours of the morning, the sound of a terrifying explosion was heard accompanied with a gigantic column of fire. According to military officials, the sound was caused by the successful operation of a demolition unit of the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran carried out against one of the enemy logistics and transport bridges over the main Piranshahr-Ravanduz highway. The enemy forces continued their suicidal efforts in the (?lower) regions having lost a number of very important strategic positions in the heights of the region.

According to reports by IRNA correspondents from the front lines, the battle continues in the eastern sector of the operation at the start of the main highway and the Islamic warriors having crossed numerous [word indistinct] obstacles and by entering the enemy positions have started to clear the minefields.

In the (Tamarchin-'Amtareh) area, heavy exchanges of fire continue and according to reports reaching us, the battle is heavier over KingHeights. At 0200, the Islamic fighters crossed an enemy canal in the northern sector of the battle and crushed the desperate resistance of the enemy unit defending the first and second trenches of the frontline.

[Signed] Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters

Further Headquarters Communique

GF230600 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0546 GMT 23 Jul 8

[Unnumbered communique issued by Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters]

[Text] In a continuation of the victorious Wal Fajr-II operations, over 10 villages and bases occupied by the Iraqi forces in the heights adjacent to and overlooking the Piranshahr-Ravanduz border highway on Iraqi territory have been liberated this morning.

According to reports by correspondents at the frontlines, (Muton-e Bala, Muton-e Pa'in, Khoaro-ye Bala, and Khoaro-ye Pa'in) villages have been captured by the Islamic fighters. Progress toward Darband situated 18 km across the border continues. Heavy exchanges of artillery fire continue in most parts of the operational theater.

[Signed] Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters

Communique No 2

LD230929 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0754 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Joint Communique No 2 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran and Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. There is neither strength nor might except through God, the exalted Almighty. Muhammad is the apostle of God and these who are with him are hard on the infidels and kind with one another. [Koran] Forward heroic erasers of blasphemy! Forward fighting soldiers of the imam of the era! Forward guards of the sanctity of Islam. Your implacable assault against the soldiers of

darkness and corruption will tear asunder the ranks of the black army of oppression until you uncover a true dawn thanks to your faith and courage!

Revolutionary Muslim nation, martyr-nurturing Iranian nation, Islam's mighty forces, relying on everlasting divine force, are creating epics of self-sacrifice. The Wal Fajr-II operations that began last night with the codename "Oh God, Oh God, Oh God" in the Piranshahr border region and along the highway between Piranshahr and Iraq's Ravanduz — with the aim of liberating the important strategic heights in the region and occupying the Hajj 'Umran base, which is a main source for reinforcing and supplying outlaws and the Zionist, Ba'thist enemy, and with the aim of keeping Kordestan's border cities and hamlets out of range of enemy fire by advancing onto Iraqi soil — are continuously dealing crushing blows to the enemy forces.

The zealous sons of the Islamic nation's party of God, in order to realize the rights of the Islamic nation of Iran and with the aim of achieving predesigned targets, who have launched an assault on the heart of the forces of blasphemy, have so far succeeded in destroying up to 70 percent of the 3d and 5th Battalionsof the Iraqi 98th Infantry Brigade, killing or wounding more than 2,300 of their servicemen and also capturing many.

Islam's forces have already occupied five important hills in the region. By advancing toward the highest hills in the region, the strategic King Heights, they are continuing their efforts towards achieving their targets and occupying enemy outposts in Shiveh Rash, Simurgh, Rayat, and the important Piranshahr-Ravanduz highway and the Iraqi Hajj 'Umran base. By liberating several important enemy outposts, they already control the Piranshahr-Ravanduz axis.

Heavy fire from Islam's forces at equipment and weapons of the Zionist enemies destroyed large numbers of vehicles and several armored personnel carriers and set ablaze several ammunition dumps belonging to the forces of the Zionist Ba'thist regime. The dumps continued to burn for many hours. Also, an enemy helicopter was shot down by the mighty troops of monotheism.

The selfless combatants and defenders of the school of the Koran — until the realization of the just conditions of the Islamic Republic of Iran — will continue their relentless battle against the Zionist rulers of Baghdad. To achieve these aims, they have ahead of them the divine support of God and behind them they have the pure prayers of the Islamic nation.

Here we call on the God-seeking and martyr-nurturing Islamic nation as always to continue prayers to God Almighty, to seek succour from him, and to congregate at the mosques to attain victory for the Islamic combatants and for their heroic sons! There is no victory except from God, the precious and wise. [Koran]

[Signed] Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters, joint operational center of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 3

LD231209 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Communique No 3 of Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters]

[Excerpt] More than 20 enemy bases in the King Heights and its valleys were captured by the mighty soldiers of the imam of the era.The forces of Islam have surrounded the strategic bases of Shiwehrash, Zinu, Rayat, Hajj 'Umran Garrison, a few villages, and part of the strategic Piranshahr-Ravanduz highway, and are planning to liberate the aforementioned regions during the Wal Fajr-Hoperations.

So far, at the hand of the triumphant army of Islam — in addition to the 3d and 5th Battalions of Iraq's 91st Infantry Brigade, which have been 70 percent destroyed; and another battalion of Iraq's 98th Infantry Brigade which has been completely destroyed — another battalion from Iraq's special 66 force has been 60 percent destroyed, Iraq's commando battalion of Tariq has been completely destroyed, and more than 3,000 enemy soldiers have been either killed or wounded and a number taken prisoner.

As a result of Islam forces' fire on the Zionist enemy's positions and fortifications, a few of its ammunition dumps were set on fire and destroyed. More than 45 enemy vehicles carrying ammunition were completely crushed by our forces' fire and explosions resulting from this operation continued for several hours.

One enemy aircraft was shot down by fire from air defense units and fighter aircraft of the Air Force of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Several enemy vehicles and personnel carriers were destroyed by the self-sacrificing combatants of Islam.

Battles are presently continuing with fierce exchanges of fire and our faithful and valiant forces, in addition to firing at enemy positions and fortifications, are advancing with great bravery toward their aims.

Communique No 4

LD231812 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Communique No 4 of Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters]

[Excerpts]The mighty Islamic forces' heroic offensive against the criminal enemy forces and the warmongering Ba'thist-Zionist regime ruling Baghdad continues, with our antiblasphemous heroes maintaining total superiority.

The Islamic combatants — comprising the brave personnel of the Islamic Republic army, the self-sacrificing revolution guards, members of the mobilization Unit of the Revolution Guards

Corps, Muslim Kurdish peshmerga, and Muslim Iraqi combatants — continuing the victorious Wal Fajr-II operations which culminated at noon today in the capturing of the strategic Azadi Heights, several important heights in the Piranshahr border area, the Piranshahr-Ravanduz axis in Iraq, the encircling of several important bases and Hajj 'Umran in Iraq, succeeded in advancing from the region's heights toward the international Piranshahr-Ravanduz highway. During intense engagements with the Zionist enemy, our forces captured more than 30 bases, killed and wounded enemy forces, and tightened their encirclement. Having launched rapid assaults and dealt heavy blows on the enemy, our forces captured the (Zenu) and Shiveh Rash) regions — important centers of resistence and enemy bases in the region.

In the ensuing operations, the Islamic combatants further tightened their encirclement of the Hajj 'Umran Garrison — an important command center and enemy concentration point — and after rapid and calculated offensives they captured the Hajj 'Umran Garrison and the hamlet of Hajj 'Umran in Iraq. They also killed a great number of enemy troops.

Our epic-making combatants also succeeded in liberating a section of the important Piranshahr-Ravanduz supply route, as far as (Zenu) junction. So far, more than 3,600 Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi troops have been either killed or wounded. In addition to destroying dozens of enemy vehicles and personnel carriers, our forces succeeded in capturing intact 10 tanks and personnel carriers, a great many vehicles and several pieces of criminal Saddamist artillery.

Together with the Muslim Iraqi fighters, our forces also brought the Qal'at Dizah-Choman axis, located in Iraq, under their control. Following its successive defeats, the enemy tried to launch an offensive on the liberated (Sarvol) heights by deploying a commando battalion. However this offensive was smashed by the Islamic heroes and combatants, who totally destroyed the enemy commando force. The Islamic combatants, relying on God Almighty, continue to maintain the initiative. They will continue the battle until their predetermined objectives are achieved.

[Signed] Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters, joint operations headquarters of the Islamic Republic army and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

Communique No 5

LD241133 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 July 83

[Communique No 5 of Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters]

[Excerpts] The able combatants of Islam continuing their triumphant Wal Fajr II operation which is being carried out under the command of the Hamzeh ash-Shohada base, headquarters of joint operation by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps, in the frontier region of Piranshahr and the Piranshahr-Ravanduz axis in Iraq, following the capture of the very important strategic heights of Freedom, Kodo, Heder Zherfan, Kuh-e Sartul, Barzin, Gerd-e Kuh, Tapeh-e Khalan, and others, the capture of 35 bases and enemy concentrations in those mountains, peaks and valleys, liberating the very important and strategic Haji 'Umran which is Iraq's major military center in this region, have succeeded in liberating the small city of Haji 'Umran, Iraq's frontier customs hosue, Iraqi districts and villages of upper and lower [word indistinct] upper and lower [word indistinct] Palan, [word indistinct] uper and lower Rayat and communications and supply axis of Pranshahr-Ravanduz, 15 km inside Iraqi territory.

Since last night, another six enemy bases have collapsed at the hand of mighty valiants of Islam and another part of the enemy force is being encircled by our forces.

Combatants of Islam by inflicting heavy and repeated blows on them have taken steps toward destroying and eliminating enemy forces in this region.

So far, the powerful forces of Islam have captured from the enemy as spoils of war tens of vehicles, twelve assorted artilleries and mortar launchers, loaders and bulldozers along with hundreds of light weapons in serviceable condition. Also several ammunition dumps full of assorted ammunition and light and heavy weapons along with considerable amount of [word indistinct] and communications equipment have been taken by our forces in serviceable condition.

So far, in the course of Wal Fajr-II, more than 3,800 Iraqi troops have either been killed or injured by mighty combatants of Islam and a number of Iraqi troops have been taken prisoner and more than 150 of them have been transferred to the rear.

The able combatants of Islam while consolidating their positions are defending the regions they have taken.

[Signed] Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters, joint operations headquarters of the Islamic Republic army and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques

Communique No 1,384

LD221733 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Communique No 1,384 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Yesterday and today, the mighty combatants of Islam opened fire from the country's western operational axes and destroyed a large number of the Ba'thist-Zionist enemy's weapons and ammunition dumps. Our forces also opened fire on two enemy vehicle columns, inflicting heavy losses and casualties on the Saddamist forces. The combatants of Islam stationed in those regions maintained their fire superiority, halted the enemy's efforts to strengthen its defensive lines, and sent out patrols which neutralized the enemy's mine fields and obstacles.

On the southern fronts yesterday, the combatants of Islam continued their defensive operations in defense of their regions, destroyed enemy positions, and killed a number of Saddam's troops.

Yesterday the city of Abadan came under the criminal Saddamist mercenaries' artillery fire; two houses were destroyed and parts of the city were gutted.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,385

LD231822 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Communique No 1,385 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Following the successful operations of the victorious combatants of Islam in the operational areas of Piranshahr and our cZmbatants' glorious victories and following the communiques released by the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada base informing the martyr-nurturing nation and dear compatriots of the untiring efforts of the powerful personnel of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Muslim Kurdish warriors, we now inform you of the situation on other fronts of the imposed war.

Exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued sporadically on most western fronts yesterday. While consolidating their respective defensive positions and executing defensive fire, our forces checked the Iraqi forces'movements.

On the Baneh border front, our forces opened artillery fire on the positions occupied by Saddamist mercenaries andset fire to and destroyed enemy entrenchments. About 60 Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries were either killed or wounded.

In the Marivan region, our ground force combatants' heavy artillery fire destroyed two Iraqi trucks in Biareh Garrison and installations in that garrison were set on fire. Considerable damage was inflicted on the Saddamists' installations and concentration points, and the Iraqi forces engineering activities in this region were halted.

On the southern fronts, our combatants guarded their positions and the areas under their protection, returned enemy fire, silenced the Iraqi forces fire, and inflicted damage and casualities on the mercenary Iraqi forces by dispatching patrol groups.

On the Abadan front, the Gendarmerie warriors opened fire on Saddamist positions and killed or wounded a number of their personnel; several weapons emplacements were destroyed.

Yesterday, the city of Abadan came under the Saddamist mercenaries fire, which destroyed two houses and set fire to several areas of the city's palm groves. During the past 24 hours, tactical moves by the selfless pilots of the Air Force and the antiaircraft defense units foiled all attempted air raids by the Iraqi forces onthe southern and western border regions.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,391

LD241758 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Communique No 1,391 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His Exalted Name. Fighting and clashes continued in the Wal Fajr-II operational sector last night and today. The brave warriors of Islam, while achieving new success — details of which were brought to your attention through the communiques issued by the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohoda Headquarters — have retained the captured objectives and have crushed any resistance by the defeated Saddamist forces. The tasks of collecting and removing the captured booty and mopping up operations continue in the liberated regions.

The heroic pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Airborne Division are assisting their victorious brothers by guarding the airspace of the operational zone and by providing air cover for the combat units of the Ground Forces. In addition to the enemy plane which was downed in the Wal Fajr-II operational sector yesterday, another plane of the enemy was also hit by the fire of our forces at 1110 today, crashing in the Irbil region of Iraq.

Our combatants positioned on the frontlines of the border front of Baneh opened fire on enemy positions, destroying a number of trenches and foxholes of the Saddamists and killing a group of Iraqi troops.

In the Marivan sector, our forces opened fire on the concentration points of the enemy in the Maru region and smashed some of the trenches of the Iraqi infantry troops.

The exchange of heavy arms fire continued on the southern fronts yesterday and the combatants of Islam on each front, firing effectively, heavily damaged parts of the defense lines and the artillery emplacements and observation posts of the enemy and inflicted losses on the Saddamist mercenaries.

As a result of the enemy's long-range artillery fire, three houses were demolished in Abadan yesterday.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Foreign Minister on Threat to Oil Installations

LD241722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Text] In connection with recent remarks by the Iraqi Ba'thist foreign minister concerning attacks on Iranian oil installations,

Foreign Minister Velayati spoke to our correspondent. He said that we interpret the recent remarks by the Iraqi foreign minister as a direct threat against the security of the Persian Gulf, aimed at the political and military blackmail of the littoral states. We believe that the Zionist Iraqi regime is fully aware of the Islamick hyphenationRepublic's sensitivity and commitment concerning its oil exports. Knowing that, should any disruption occur in the export of Iranian oil, then no country in the region will be able to export its oil. Iraq is now threatening the entire region.

Since the Iraqi regime has enjoyed all-round support from the global arrogance, particularly France, in making the utmost use of its military capability in attacking Iranian oil and economic installations, there is not the slightest doubt that the main aim of the recent threats is to blackmail the region's states and to extend a direct invitation to the superpowers to intervene in the region.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Explains Wal Fajr Operation

LD241044 Tehran IRNA in English 0930 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Text] Tehran, July 24 (IRNA) — "We especially chose Kordestan in order to show the world that the Iranian Government was in full control of the region, enabled to launch such an operation in a difficult terrain, hence we negated false propaganda of the Western and Eastern mass media which had tried to portray the Kordestan region as important basis for the counterrevolution," said Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani in the open session of the Majlis today.

He added that the recent operation (second stage of Wal Fajr), was noteworthy in aspects such as theater, timing, and the composition of the Iranian forces and that of the Iraqi aggressor forces.

Speaking on the timing of the operation, the speaker said Iran had selected such a timing in order to show the French nation, rather than the ruling Socialists there, where their government was taking them and their economy, so that they would realise that their country's fate was in danger as that of Iraq.

On the composition of forces, Rafsanjani said that the enemy's forces included the monarchists, the munafiqin, the communists, the so-called nationalists, the komelehs, all backed by the Iraqi armed forces.

"However," noted the speaker, "the Iranian forces included [words indistinct] the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps, the (word indistinct), the gendarmerie, and the Iraqi mujahedin and Kurds, who next to the Iranian forces created this [word indistinct]."

Rafsanjani said that in the Hajj 'Umran area today, it (?was the) bullets of the Iraqi mujahedin themselves which were pressing the army of Saddam.

"Iran is proud of the Iraqi nation, who is acting itself inside the Iraqi territory next to Iranian forces," continued the speaker.

Speaking on the Iraqi oil exports, he said that country was extremely vulnerable with its diminishing economy. He voiced hope for the rapid continuation of the Iranian forces works. Warning the Iraqi aggressor regime, he said that they should surrender to justice, and stop shedding the blood of the innocent people.

In conclusion, the Majlis speaker called on the supporters of Saddam to stop backing him and create more hardships since the Islamic Republic of Iran wanted peace more than any other country, but a just and a noble peace by which it could attain all its rights.

'Hundreds' of Volunteers Leave for Warfront

GF231846 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, simultaneous with the victorious Wal Fajr-II operations, hundreds of noble members of the mobilization of the Islamic Revolution guards left this afternoon for the front from the Saheb oz-Zaman base in Shiraz.

These dear ones came from the districts and villages of Fars and Kohkiluyeh va Boyer Ahmad voluntarily after completing a training course and left by airplane for the fronts of the war of Islam against the mercenaries of world oppression.

Khomeyni Meets With Armed Forces Chief of Staff

LD231121 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] Brigidier General Qasem 'Ali Zahirnezhad, chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, was received by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic revolution and commander in chief of the Armed Forces. He presented the imam of the nation with a report on the efforts of the combatants of Islam and recent victories.

At the conclusion of his audience, the chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran told our correspondent that during his meeting with the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, he presented the imam with a report on the Armed Forces performance and its various aspects and on Islam's continuous efforts and progress achieved in countering counterrevolutionary elements.

The imam of the nation, while greeting and expressing his satisfaction to all combatants of Islam, paid tribute to the Islamic combatants' self-sacrifices. The chief of staff added that during his meeting, the imam of the nation issued a directive that the situation of families of sentenced personnel of the Armed Forces should be examined and the imam's kindness will be communicated to those families.

Montazeri Condemns Saudi 'Obstructionism' of Pilgrims

LD221939 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 jul 83

[Text] Following the various obstructions and hostile measures by the rulers and government officials of Saudi Arabia in connec-

tion with preliminary arrangements for the Iranian pilgrims to Mecca as well as the repeated warnings by the Islamic Republic Government to the Saudi regime, the eminent jurisconsult, His Excellency Ayatollah Montazeri today issued the following message to the Islamic countries' ulema, clergymen, and Friday and congregational imams:

We will apply sever punishment to those who have rejected God and who are swayed away from His path and the Holy Mosque, which we have made for everybody, and to those who propagate atheism and tyranny. [Koran]

To the esteemed and eminent ulema, the committed clerics and the Friday and congregational imams of the Islamic countries, may God's hand be with them: My greetings and compliments. You are certainly aware of the recent obstructionism by the Saudi Government with regard to the pilgrimage by almost 100,000 Iranian Muslims to Mecca, contrary to all Islamic and international laws.

I do not know how a government that considers itself Muslim and on the side of the Koran and a follower of Mohammedan shari'a can allow itself to so greatly insult Islam and the great Islamic nation, despite the clear pronouncement of the holy Koran, which regards the house of God as belonging to all Muslims of the world and which regards people from near and far as equals in their use of the place, for equal is the dweller there, and the visitor from the country. [Koran]

In circumstances when the archSatan, America, as well as Zionist agents, are daily engaged in various parts of the world in hatching new plots against Islam and this alert and newly liberated nation, can this sabotage and obstructionism by the Saudi Government blocking the fulfillment of this divine duty be interpreted as anything but a measure favoring Zionism and the front of global infidels?

How are the Saudi rulers currently in charge of administering the two holy shrines to answer the great powers, the Muslim nations,and the world conscience, having resorted to such a grave precedence and having insulted the sanctities of Islam? Have they thought about the political and social consequences of their blasphemous act? They should not think that they have only insulted the Muslim Iranian nation by this puerile and unreasonable act committed by some corrupt and dependent pawns in their government. They have demeaned the religious conscience as well as the Islamic sanctities of all the world's muslims.

Should, God forbid, their ill intention be proved, then in addition to the normal reactions and political repercus- sions in the government, the ulema in the Islamic states and the awakened forces in the Islamic world will feel it their religious duty to draw up a new account for the Saudi Government in contrast to that for other Islamic countries.

It is highly regrettable that, in circumstances when Palestine and the Al-'Aqsa Mosque, the first and foremost focus of attention of all Muslims, as well as dear Lebanon are occupied by Zionism, this illegitimate offspring of the superpowers and when the Islamic Government and the great Iranian nation are always thinking of saving the Muslims and the oppressed from the sinister world arrogance, especially the usurping Israel, the Saudi Government, being fully aware of Israel's sinister objectives and the threat of occupation of the two holy shrines by it, is taking such a hostile stand against Islam and the Muslims. Thus, by its own hands, it opens the way for the achievement of the sinister objectives of the enemies of Islam.

If the Saudi Government is sincere in its utterances and slogans and is uneasy about the occupation of the Al-'Aqsa Mosque by Israel, why does it not say the same as is asserted by the great leader of the Islamic Revolution, His Excellency Imam Khomeyni, and the Islamic Iranian (?nation)? Why does it not mobilize its material powers to fight Israel, this enemy of God and people, instead of using them to strengthen the infidel front and the aggression launched by the infidel Saddam?

In conclusion, in consideration of my divine duty, I again draw the attention of the Saudi Government to the consequences of its un-Islamic act. The Islamic states' ulema, preachers and writers and the esteemed Friday and congregational imams of the Islamic world are expected to alert and awaken the Saudi rulers in whatever manner they can and hence warn them against the consequences of their propaganda and their recent stands against the great Muslim Iranian nation.

I pray to Almighty God for the victory and elevation of Islam and the disgrace and annihilation of the Western and Eastern enemies of Islam and Muslims, particularly their criminal and Zionist agents. I pray to God for the final victory of the courageous Islamic combatants on all fronts. God bless you all.

[Signed] 22 July 1983, Qom, Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri

Radio Iran: Montazeri Not Chosen Khomeyni Successor

GF241654 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Text] The result of the Council of Experts sessionto find a successor for Ruhollah Khomeyni will not be revealed soon. We make this statement clearly here and now on the basis of reliable reports we have received from our sources. The results of the deliberation of the assembly will not be made public since a power struggle on the subject of selection of Montazeri to replace Khomeyni has assumed extensive proportions.

We also have received another report stating that Ruhollah Khomeyni apparently has selected Mar'ashi as his successor in his will rather than Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri. This is because all Iranian religious sources of emulation and circles are united in considering Mullah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri's religious standing too low to be able to gather all religious powers around himself. The majority of religious sources say that Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri is one of the lowliest mullahs of the Islamic Republic.

Two Elected to Supreme Judicial Council

LD250119 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Text] According to IRNA, the supervisory commission for the complementary elections of the Supreme Judicial Council announced in a statement that Messrs Seyyed Abulfazi Mir-Mohammadi and Seyyed Mohammad Musavi-Bojnurdi were elected members of the Supreme Judicial Council.

Hashemi To Act as Voice, Vision Managing Director

GF230730 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] Following the resignation of the members of the supervisory council and their decision, Mohammad Hashemi, managing director of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic, was received by Imam Khomeyni. His holiness the imam said: Until a legal decision is reached by the heads of the judiciary, executive, and legislative branches, Mr Mohammad Hashemi will assume all the responsibilities of the managing director of the Voice and Vision as my representative.

Emami-Kashani Gives Friday Sermon 22 July

LD221429 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Report on sermon by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani, Tehran's ad interim Friday imam, at Tehran University on 22 July]

[Excerpts] In his speech, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani referred to the question of economizing: Everything that is useful should now be utilized and this matter should be fully carried out in the ministries and government organizations.

Referring to the multiplicity of publications in organizations and institutions, he said: Instead of having too many publications, we should reduce their numbers and place them at the disposal of writers who, by raising the quality of such publications, would embark on guidance and expand the great Islamic culture; that action would be economical and would raise the standard of work.

Referring to economizing in the consumption of water and electricity, Tehran's ad interim Friday imam said: The consumption of water and electricity is now extremely high and has even doubled as compared to the past in such areas as Tehran. Things should not be conducted in this manner and the responsible authorities have pointed out that if Tehran's citizens refrain from wastages for a month, it would be possibe to solve these problems by installing new machinery. Now that our revolution is advancing with such greatness, excessive consumption by a number of people should not bring about deprivation among another lot of people.

Tehran's ad interim Friday imam devoted his sermon to a discourse on the events of the day. He referred to the salient peculiarity of the Islamic Revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran pulling aside the masks of deceit and stratagem from the hideous faces of the superpowers and their stooges, including, for example, Saddam and Iraq's Zionist, Ba'thist regime, who had claimed that they were anti-United States. Tehran's ad interim Friday imam noted: Iran's magnificent Islamic Revolution showed that Saddam is the agent of the United States and the servant of the regime occupying Jerusalem, and that he had attacked the Islamic Republic of Iran at the behest of his masters. This very Saddam, who in the beginning claimed to be anti-Israel and anti-United States, after receiving U.S., French, and Egyptian financial and military assistance and with the exposure of this assistance, the emptiness of his claims has been confirmed. By recently sending a message of congratulations to Reagan on the anniversary of U.S. independence, he requested an expansion of relations.

It is in this manner that our revolution, acting as a true touchstone and shining mirror, has acquainted the people and the world with the hideous and repulsive faces of the tricksters; those governments whose mouthpieces tell lies should know that at long last their lies will be exposed.

Continuing his second sermon, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemi Emami-Kashani referred to the deceptive propaganda disseminated by the mass media of world arrogance in misrepresenting the demonstrations by the Muslim people of Lebanon on Jerusalem Day: The Islamic Revolution is pinpointing these lies and will acquaint the world's peoples with these deceitful acts.

He then referred to the recent speech by the head of the Zionist, Ba'thist Iraqi regime: In his recent speech, Saddam once again leaned on Arab unity and said: We Arabs should be united! Are not the Lebanese people Arabs? Are not the Muslims beset with the crimes perpetrated by the Zionist occupation regime Arabs? Why do you agree when there is talk of cease-fire with Israel, recognizing its existence and safeguarding its frontiers, and show hostility to those opposing such plans? These lies have now become quite obvious and the Islamic Republic has pinpointed the differences between humans and nonhumans and lies.

Tehran's ad interim Friday Imam added: One of the big lies consists of attempts to portray the Islamic Republic of Iran as expansionist, whereas the first attack was launched by Saddam at the behest of his masters. When they thought he was victorious, they never allowed the question of a cease-fire to be put forward, but now that our heroic combatants have so selflessly shaken them on the battlefields and have placed them on the brink of destruction, they are shouting for a cease-fire, little knowing that this filthy policy of theirs is now clear to the world.

Referring to the remarks by Saddam's deputy on martyring six Iraqi ulema, he said: He said that they were killed in accordance with Iraqi law and because they were relatives of Grand Ayatollah Hakim. What law? Could such a thing be called a law when a person is executed for being a relative of another? This is not even the law of the jungle. The Islamic Republic has made it patently obvious that the world of power knows nothing but power, corruption, and debauchery.

Referring to problems created and stones cast by Saudi Arabia regarding pilgrimages by Iranian hajj pilgrims to God's house, Mecca, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Emami-Kashani said:

[Begin Emami-Kashani recording] These actions, these difficulties you create, these things you say are producing a bad reaction or repercussion in the world. Well, for someone who claims: I am the custodian of the two holy places! — What kind of two holy places, which ought to be placed at the disposal of the entire Islamic nation, and then it allows itself to create difficulties by refusing to provide accommodation, providing it late or early, making trouble, making hajj pilgrims uncomfortable! All this will be written in history, will be recorded, and tomorrow you will not be able to answer history. You will not be able to answer God. You should repent. You should really return to God and repent for these crimes and bad faith and allow the house of God to be placed at the disposal of all Muslims. Let them come and pray to God. Let them come and speak to God! [end recording]

Tehran's ad interim Friday imam continued his sermon on the need for the people to assist the country's welfare organizations, which are entrusted with serving the injured, backward, and needy people; and on the special characteristics of Mr Rezvani, the new official responsible for the civil servants' justice tribunal. In conclusion, he read a sermon in Arabic.

In his Arabic sermon, while recounting the tasks of Friday imams of Arab and Islamic countries, he addressed them by emphasizing: If you were to enlighten the minds of the people and the entire Islamic nation were to become one single hand, then Saddam, other Saddams, and their ilk would not be able to rule even a single hour. In his sermon, he also spoke about the attitude of the Saudi authorities toward the problem of pilgrimage and Iranian pilgrims.

Montazeri Sends Condolences on Kaf'ami Death
GF241040 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Text] Following the death of Hojjat ol-Eslam Kaf'ami, Ayatollah Montazeri sent the following cable to the Friday imam of Zahedan.

In His exalted name, the Reverend Sir Hajj Seyyed Mehi 'Ebadi, the esteemed Friday imam of Zahedan, God save you: The loss of the great scholar and faithful religious character, the late Hojjat ol-Eslam Val-Moslemin, the Reverend Kaf'ami, may God grant him rest, who had spent a lifetime serving Islam and the people is a great loss. I express my condolences to you, his relatives, and the people of Zahedan. May God let him rest in peace and let his spirit be associated with the holy people and blessings to his relatives.

[Signed] Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri

Radio Iran: Ayatollah Qomi Residence Besieged
GF231246 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] The residence of Ayatollah Qomi has been besieged by armed religionists. According to religious elements in Mashhad, some time back, the security officials of the Islamic regime prevented Ayatollah Qomi from attending religious ceremonies. Ayatollah Qomi, who is an esteemed source of religion [as heard], has numerous followers, and the criminal actions of the Tudeh religionists against this eminent source has aroused the anger of Mashhad citizens.

Free Voice of Iran Cites Execution of Tudeh Member
GF221858 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] Tudehis are still unconvinced about the slaughter of a group of Tudeh prisoners.

Last night, the antinational radio of the Tudeh Party reported the news about the execution of (Rodrick) Hovanesian, following the murder of Hassan Hoseynpur Tabrizi in Evin Prison. We reported this matter last week citing [name indistinct] paper. The paper wrote that Hovanesian was killed in Evin Prison.

It is not yet clear whether Hovanesian and Hoseynpur had a hand in the so-called coup d'etat at Shahrokhi in Hamean and in the slaughter of Iranian Air Force officers, or whether this was done by the other leaders of the Tudeh Party, who are still in the prisons of Ayatollah Khomeyni and have not yet been executed.

Syrian Trade Minister Arrives for Talks 24 July
LD250110 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Text] Salim Yasin, minister of economy and foreign trade of our brother country the Syrian Arab Republic, arrived in Tehran today at the head of a high-ranking economic delegation. Our country's minister of commerce, 'Asgar-Owladi-Moslaman, and a group of ministry officials welcomed the Syrian delegation at the airport.

In a brief interview with our correspondent, Salim Yasin commented on the purpose of the trade delegation's visit to Iran: Our trip to the brother country of the Islamic Republic of Iran aims to strengthen and continue economic relations between the two countries, as it appears, these relations are expanding rapidly.

He added: During the delegation's stay in Tehran, in addition to talks on trade, the first exhibition exclusively for Syrian-made goods will open in Iran. This will be another step in expanding economic relations between the two nations.